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09/830,030	04/20/2001	Yukihito Ichikawa	791_328	9377
25191	7590	08/18/2009	EXAMINER	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Continuation of Items 5 and 11.

The rejection(s) of claims 1, 4-11 and 16-18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamada (JP 05-123580), taken alone or in view of secondary references, have been withdrawn in view of Applicant's arguments and a reconsideration of the prior art.

Claims 1, 4-11 and 16-18 are allowable. The prior art does not disclose or adequately suggest the claimed undulated-wall honeycomb structure, wherein the honeycomb structure comprises a plurality of cell passages meeting the requirements set forth under items (1), (2), (3) and (4); and furthermore, (5) the honeycomb structure comprises at least 56 of said cell passages.

The following proposed amendment, which addresses the currently withdrawn claims, would place the application in condition for allowance if timely submitted in a reply by Applicant. In particular, the amendments to withdrawn claims 12, 19, 22, 23 and 26 place the claims in allowable form and eligible for rejoinder practice, by requiring all the limitations of an allowable parent claim. Furthermore, the amendment cancels withdrawn claims 30-32.

Proposed amendment:

12. (Withdrawn-currently amended) A fine particle removing filter ~~using~~ comprising the undulated-wall honeycomb structure according to Claim 11, comprising filtering layers of walls partitioning the cell passages, wherein one end of particular cell passages of said undulated-wall honeycomb structure and the other end of the remaining cell passages are plugged.

19. (Withdrawn-currently amended) An exhaust gas purification catalytic converter, ~~including~~ comprising the undulated-wall honeycomb structure according to Claim 16.

22. (Withdrawn-currently amended) An exhaust gas purification catalytic converter system, comprising an exhaust gas purification catalytic converter comprising an undulated-wall honeycomb structure having a gas flow direction and a plurality of cell passages which are mutually parallel in the gas flow direction, wherein:

intersection portions between walls partitioning said cell passages are located at a predetermined pitch at cross-sections perpendicular to said cell passages and are located in a pattern,

the wall face portions of said walls excluding said intersection portions have an undulated shape in both the gas flow direction and a cross-sectional direction perpendicular to said gas flow

direction, and

 said catalytic converter is located on the upstream side of an exhaust gas source, and the fine particle removing filter according to Claim 12 ~~or a fine particle removing filter comprising a normal flat wall honeycomb structure~~ is on the downstream side of such said exhaust gas source.

23. (Withdrawn-currently amended) An exhaust gas purification catalytic converter system according to Claim 22, wherein each of said fine particle removing filters is a readily-exchangeable cartridge type configuration.

26. (Withdrawn-currently amended) A fuel tank evaporation system including comprising the undulated-wall honeycomb structure according to Claim 16, for suppressing external leakage of volatile components of fuel.

30–32. (Canceled).

* * *

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JENNIFER A. LEUNG whose telephone number is (571) 272-1449. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 am - 5:30 pm Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Walter D. Griffin can be reached on (571) 272-1447. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jennifer A. Leung/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797